

of the past, but even more we celebrate our dream for a future in which all Americans share equally in the rights and responsibilities of this land.

Social and political change is never easy, as we know by the sacrifices of the early Suffragists. Courageous and high-principled, these women wrote, marched and argued for their cause through long years of delay and disappointment, but they never accepted defeat. Only a few weeks before her death at 86, Susan B. Anthony addressed a convention on the theme, "Failure is impossible!" They knew the rightness of their cause, and found the will and courage to create a climate of change. We can best honor their memory today by continuing their crusade.

In the intervening years women have faithfully carried out responsibilities at all levels of government, in every area of employment and education, and in the nurturing of families and children. Yet many of the rights that should accompany those responsibilities are missing. Despite our hard-won progress, the rights of women vary from state to state. The Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution, which would set a clear national standard outlawing discrimination against women, is still an unfulfilled promise. Thanks to the efforts of millions of women and men, 35 states have ratified the Equal Rights Amendment. We have until June, 1982, to complete the ratification process in three more states and make the principle of equality a Constitutional guarantee.

Today, I reaffirm my own commitment to make the Equal Rights Amendment part of our Constitution. I urge all Americans to rekindle the spirit of early Suffragists, to use their energies, their wisdom and their compassion to achieve full equality for women. To advance the cause of women's rights is to advance the cause of human rights.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim August 26, 1980 as Women's Equality Day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-sixth day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fifth.

JIMMY CARTER

Editorial Note: The President's remarks of Aug. 26, 1980, on signing Proclamation 4785, are printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 16, p. 1572).

Proclamation 4786 of August 29, 1980

Working Mothers' Day, 1980

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

In greater numbers than ever before, American mothers are taking on important job responsibilities outside the home. In workplaces across our Nation and in every occupation, more than 16 million employed mothers are contributing their valuable skills to the labor force. In fact, more than half of all the mothers in this country have taken on jobs outside the home, and it is estimated that by 1990, 75% of all two-parent families will have both parents in the work force.

On the job and in the home, working mothers are making a vital contribution to the national economy and to the strength of the American family. Working mothers do not shed homemaking and parental responsibilities; they merely add the demands of a job to those of wife and mother. As we recognize the hard work and dedication of these women, we also acknowledge the many special problems they confront in meeting their dual responsibilities. We have an obligation to reinforce and support them in their endeavors.

To give special recognition to working mothers for fulfilling their exceptional responsibilities in the home and in the world of commerce, the House of Representatives (House Joint Resolution 379) has requested that I designate August 31, 1980, as Working Mothers' Day. I fully support this Resolution.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate August 31, 1980, as Working Mothers' Day and call upon families, individual citizens, labor and civic organizations, and the business community to recognize publicly the unique contributions of mothers currently in the work force, and to honor former generations of working mothers for their important role in building American society.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fifth.

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4787 of August 29, 1980

General Pulaski's Memorial Day, 1980

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Each year on the eleventh of October, the American people pay tribute to the memory of General Casimir Pulaski. In doing so they not only honor this great Polish champion of American freedom but also give recognition to the ties between our two nations, to the contributions of millions of other Polish-Americans to the birth and development of this country, and to the indivisibility of freedom everywhere.

By giving his life on the battlefield of our revolution, General Pulaski has provided inspiration to generations of his countrymen—in the United States and in Poland.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Saturday, October 11, 1980, as General Pulaski's Memorial Day, and I direct the appropriate Government officials to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on that day.

I also invite the people of the United States to honor the memory of General Pulaski by holding appropriate exercises and ceremonies in suitable places throughout our land.